



**U.S. Department of  
Transportation**  
Office of the Secretary  
of Transportation

## **NOTICE OF ACTION TAKEN**

**DOCKET OST-964600 -- 3 2**

This serves as interim notice to the public of the action described below, taken orally by the Department official indicated; the confirming order or other decision document will be issued as soon as possible.

In the matter **of: Expanded Cargo Transfer Flexibility at Alaskan International Airports**

### Background

By Order 96- 1 1-2, as renewed on November 3, 1997, we granted certain blanket authority to foreign air carriers to conduct expanded cargo transfer activities at international airports in the State of Alaska. We did not include the foreign air carriers of Japan in our blanket grant in light of our ongoing aviation negotiations with the Japanese Government, stating that the unilateral grant of such authority could compromise our ability to achieve our negotiating objectives.

On January 30, 1998, the United States and Japan agreed to authorize new services, including new all-cargo services, in the U.S.-Japan market. Delegations of the United States and Japan signed a Memorandum of Consultations (MOC) that included attached understandings regarding the elements to be included in a Memorandum of Understanding. The delegations also agreed that the provisions of those understandings would be provisionally in effect upon signing of the MOC, pending conclusion of an interim agreement.

### **DISPOSITION**

Action: We, *sua sponte*, amend the authority granted in Docket OST-96-1600 to authorize foreign air carriers of Japan to exercise the cargo transfer activities described in Order 96-1 1-2.

Action date: **FEBRUARY 6, 1998**

Effective dates of authority granted: **FEBRUARY 6 - NOVEMBER 3, 1998**

Except to the extent exempted/waived, this authority is subject to the terms, conditions, and limitations indicated in Order 96- 1 1-2.

Action taken by: Charles A. Hunnicutt  
Assistant Secretary for Aviation  
and International Affairs